

BENTON COUNTY Tobacco Use Statistics

ADULTS

Adult Tobacco Use

Information about reductions will be available in early 2003

- Our most recent survey data showed that about 14.4% of adults in Benton County smoke cigarettes.¹

Quit Line

- 211 people from Benton County called the Quit Line last year.²

YOUTH

Current Cigarette Smoking

New data will be available in early 2003

- Our most recent survey data showed:³
 - 6th grade: we do not have data to tell us how many Benton County youth are smokers; however, 4.0% statewide reported they currently smoke cigarettes.
 - 8th grade: we do not have data to tell us how many Benton County youth are smokers; however, 12.5% statewide reported they currently smoke cigarettes.
 - 10th grade: we do not have data to tell us how many Benton County youth are smokers; however, 19.8% statewide reported they currently smoke cigarettes.
 - 12th grade: we do not have data to tell us how many Benton County youth are smokers; however, 27.6% statewide reported they currently smoke cigarettes.

PREGNANT WOMEN

Smoking During Pregnancy

New data will be available in mid-2003

- About 11.1% of pregnant women in Benton County smoke during pregnancy, compared to 12.6% statewide.⁴
- About 260 infants are born each year in Benton County to mothers who smoke during pregnancy.⁵

¹ Data are from the 1999-2001 Department of Health Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). A 'current smoker' reports having smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and also responds "every day" or "some days" to the question "Do you smoke cigarettes now?" Multiple years of data were combined to provide enough participants for a valid sample to represent the county. This estimate has a $\pm 5.5\%$ margin of error – this means that the "true" population value (percent of current smokers) is somewhere in this range of the reported percentage, but may not be exactly equal to the reported percentage.

² Data include counts of tobacco users, health care provider, and other callers seeking information from the Washington State Tobacco Quit Line between July 1, 2001, and June 30, 2002, who identified themselves as being residents of Benton County.

³ Data for Washington were collected as part of a statewide sample of youth for the WSSAHB in Fall 2000. The margins of error for estimates are: 6th grade ($\pm 0.7\%$), 8th grade ($\pm 1.1\%$), 10th grade ($\pm 1.5\%$), and 12th grade ($\pm 2.0\%$). This means that the "true" population value (percent of current smokers) is somewhere in this range of the reported percentage, but may not be exactly equal to the reported percentage.

⁴ Data are from 2001 Washington State Birth Certificates. The margin of error for Benton County is ($\pm 1.3\%$); the margin of error for Washington State is ($\pm 0.2\%$). Women who answer 'yes' to the question "Did mother smoke at any time during pregnancy?" are classified as smokers. Health risk behaviors like smoking during pregnancy may be underreported due to growing social unacceptability of unhealthy behaviors during pregnancy.

⁵ The number of infants born to mothers who smoke during pregnancy are calculated using an average of the births to mothers who report smoking on the Birth Certificate from 1999-2001. The estimate is rounded to the nearest factor of ten.